

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 6-13 without prejudice, amend Claims 1, 2, and 3 as follows, and add the following new Claims 14-16.

1. (Currently Amended) In a computerized patient records system operated for a healthcare institution which maintains written clinical guidelines, a method of operating active guidelines comprising the steps of

a) on a guidelines server, maintaining ~~the text of~~ the clinical guidelines and also maintaining, associated with the clinical guidelines, active guideline tags containing codes for actions to be taken by the computerized patient records system;

b) at the station of a user, operating an active guidelines viewer in communication with the guidelines server, the active guidelines viewer including a web browser and an active guidelines interpreter, the web browser displaying the at least a single clinical guidelines guideline received from the guidelines server while the active guidelines interpreter processes the active guideline tag associated with the single clinical guideline to present a hyperlink for the user; and

c) if when the user accepts ~~an accessed~~ the single clinical guideline by invoking the hyperlink, creating an action item from ~~the information in~~ the active guideline tag to be sent to the computerized patient records system for implementation, the action item being processed by the computerized patient record system to create an order.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~action item~~ order in step (c) is issuing a prescription.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~action item~~ order in step (c) is ~~order or~~ for a procedure to be performed.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the station of the user communicates with the active guidelines server over the internet.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the station of the user communicates with the active guidelines server over the internet.

At B1  
Concluded

6-13. (Cancelled)

14. (New) In a multiple server computer system to operate an electronic medical records software system and order entry in a healthcare institution, a method comprising the steps of

a) providing an active guidelines server, the active guidelines server maintaining a set of clinical guidelines and a set of active guidelines tags, each of the active guidelines tags being associated with at least one of the clinical guidelines and including codes for orders to be ordered;

b) providing a workstation at the location of a clinician, the workstation operating an active guidelines viewer, the active guidelines viewer including a web browser and an active guidelines interpreter, the web browser displaying for the clinician the clinical guidelines and the active guidelines interpreter processing the active guidelines tags to present to the clinician hyperlinks assigned to the active guidelines tags; and

c) when the clinician chooses a hyperlink presented by the active guidelines interpreter, the active guidelines interpreter sending a communication to the electronic medical records software system to cause an order to be entered.

15. (New) The method of claim 14 wherein the order in step (c) is issuing a prescription.

16. (New) The method of claim 15 wherein the order in step (c) is for a procedure to be performed.